

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-34 of the present application.

In reviewing the Examiner's Amendment to line 8 of Claims 2 and 4 that was attached to the Notice of Allowability attached to the Notice of Issue Fee(s) due, an error in these amended claims was noted. In this regard, the recital in these claims of a "device control means" is now inaccurate because the recited control by this "device control means" of the image control means "to transfer the control program stored in said first external recording medium is impossible as the "first external recording medium" is not recited to be "applied to said recording media interface." Note lines 10-11 of Claim 2 and lines 9-12 of Claim 4 that recite that instead of the first external recording medium being "applied to said recording media interface," the controlled transfer only occurs "when a second external recording medium storing said control program of the corresponding extension device is applied to said recording media interface." Thus, it is only this second external recording medium of Claims 2 and 4 that can have the control program stored therein transferred "to a program memory of the corresponding extension device" because it is this second external recording medium of Claims 2 and 4 that is recited to be "applied to said recording media interface."

Accordingly, instead of the improper change made by the Examiner's Amendment to add --first-- before "external" in line 8 of Claims 2 and 4, the proper correction would have been to change the existing line 8 recital of these claims ("said external recording medium") to read --a second external recording medium-- to be consistent with the disclosure and the further recital in Claims 2 and 4 of the second external medium being the external recording medium "applied to said recording media interface." This change would have also then have been consistent with the Claim 18 recital of "the device controller controls the image

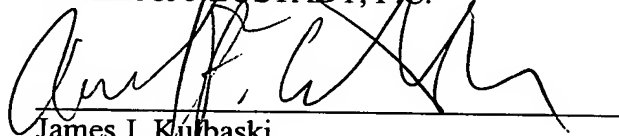
controller to transfer the control program stored in a second external recording medium through the download exclusive communicator to a program memory of a corresponding one of the extension devices when the second external recording medium storing the control program of the corresponding extension device is applied to the recording media interface” (emphasis added), unlike the actual change made to line 8 of Claims 2 and 4.

Applicants submit that no new matter has been added by the foregoing amendments and that the presently proposed corrections are clearly formal matters requiring no further search or other considerations on the merits.

As no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believes that any further action is necessary to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-noted telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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